

CLAIMS

1. A polarizer comprising a film having a structure having a minute domain dispersed in a matrix formed of a translucent water-soluble resin including an iodine light absorbing material and a divalent metal.
- 5 2. The polarizer according to Claim 1, wherein the divalent metal contains zinc and/or nickel.
3. The polarizer according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the minute domain is formed of an oriented birefringent material.
- 10 4. The polarizer according to Claim 3, wherein the birefringent material shows liquid crystalline at least in orientation processing step.
5. The polarizer according to Claim 3 or 4, wherein the minute domain has 0.02 or more of birefringence.
- 15 6. The polarizer according to any one of Claims 3 to 5, wherein in a refractive index difference between the birefringent material forming the minute domain and the translucent water-soluble resin in each optical axis direction, a refractive index difference (Δn^1) in direction of axis showing a maximum is 0.03 or more, and
- 20 a refractive index difference (Δn^2) between the Δn^1 direction and a direction of axes of two directions perpendicular to the Δn^1 direction is 50% or less of the Δn^1 .
7. The polarizer according to any one of Claims 1 to 6, 25 wherein an absorption axis of the iodine light absorbing material is oriented in the Δn^1 direction.
8. The polarizer according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, wherein the film is manufactured by stretching.
9. The polarizer according to any one of Claims 1 to 8, 30 wherein the minute domain has a length of 0.05 to 500 μm in the

Δn^2 direction.

10. The polarizer according to any one of Claims 1 to 9, wherein an iodine light absorbing material has an absorbing band at least in a band of 400 to 700 nm wavelength range.

5 11. The polarizer according to any one of Claims 1 to 10, wherein a transmittance to a linearly polarized light in a transmission direction is 80% or more,

a haze value is 5% or less, and

10 a haze value to a linearly polarized light in an absorption direction is 30% or more.

12. A polarizing plate having a transparent protective layer formed at least on one side of the polarizer according to any one of Claims 1 to 11.

15 13. An optical film having at least one of the polarizer according to any one of Claims 1 to 11 or the polarizing plate according to Claim 12.

14. An image display comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of the polarizer according to any one of Claims 1 to 11, the polarizing plate according to Claim 12, and
20 the optical film according to Claim 13.